

(1)

THE DECLARATION

O F

CHARLES Duke of SCONBERG,

Lieutenant-General to His MAJESTY of *Great Britain*,

A N D

Colonel of His First Regiment of *ENGLISH* Guards ;

T O T H E

Inhabitants of Dauphine.

AS the Violences which *France* has exercised upon all its Neighbours, ought to make the Subjects of that Kingdom fear, that if the Allies should enter into his Estates, they would take a Vengeance proportionable to the Wrongs which they have suffered from him : We think it is our duty to inform them of the Good Intentions of the King our Master towards them.

The World knows, that he has been forc'd to take Arms, because His Estates in *Burgundy* were unjustly seized by the King of *France*, His Principality of *Orange* was sack'd, and all His Subjects oppress'd : These Injuries have also been attended with the most base and unworthy Circumstances, that the

Fury of his Enemies could suggest ; endeavouring to out Him of all that was due to Him by Birth or Succession, for the present, or in times to come : For this cause He was forc'd to take Arms to recover what was His own, and He intends to imploy them for the preservation of all men, in the possession of their Estates and Rights.

This is the End for which He has sent me into *France* ; and His only Intention is, To establish the Nobility, Parliaments, and People, in their Ancient Lustre, and the Towns and Provinces in their Privileges. He knows, that the Nobility has been trodden under foot, That the Parliaments have no Authority, That the People have been ruin'd,

raindly Taxes; But now if the Nobility, the Parliaments, and the People, do not attend their own Interest, and neglect this opportunity, the King, my Master, will see the General Estates of *France* Established; the Gentry secured in the Enjoyment of those Privileges which belong unto their Birth; and will Restore unto their Parliaments their Ancient Lustre and Authority; and Deliver the Oppressed People from their Devouring Taxes.

The King, my Master, having taken Arms for no other end, but to maintain the Rights of others, as well as His own, there is no reason for His Enemies to pretend, That this is a War of Religion; which is designed for no other end, but to kindle in the People a false Zeal, the laying of a Snare for their Credulity, that they may be enabled to make them spend the last drop of their Blood in this Quarrel. The Clergy, however, are not to be taken by such gross Impostures; the Causes, and True Authors of this War being well known unto them. But, however, I declare unto the Clergy, of what Dignity soever they be, That the King, my Master, will take them all into his Protection; and that their Privileges and Estates shall be exactly Preserved; That He will exemplarily Punish all those which shall do them any Injury; and that there shall not be any Change brought upon them, with respect to the *Roman-Catholick* Religion. Yet forasmuch as the Kings of *England* are Guarantees for the Edict of *Nantes*, the Peace of *Montpelier*, and many other Treaties

of Commerce, the King, my Master, be-
lieves himself to be obliged to maintain
that Guaranty, and to cause the said
Edict to be Established. All good
Men ought to Aid Him in this,
because that Edict was the Great Work
of *Henry* the Fourth, whose Wisdom and
Merit is so dear unto them. The *Roman-Catholicks*, who have had the Ge-
nerosity to look with Compassion upon
the Sufferings of the Protestants, will
without doubt, take pleasure to see them
be established. It is also hop'd, That
the Gentlemen of the Clergy, having
now made serious Reflections thereupon,
will be well content therewith; and by
Wife and Christian Conduct, testify
That they had no part in the Violation of
the said Edict, and all the Cruelties
which have followed upon it.

And all those which shall Joyn with
us, shall receive those Recompence
and Marks of Distinction, as their Ser-
vices shall Deserve, and which we shall
be able to give them.

But on the contrary, All those which
shall be so far from Aiding us, as to Joyn
with the Oppressors of their Country,
can expect nothing but the Severities of a
Military Execution. And we declare to
all those that will live in Peace at Home,
That they shall have no Injury done them
as to their Lives or Fortunes.

At Ambrun,

Aug. 29. 1692.

L I C E N S E D,

EDMUND BOHUN

Septemb. 23.
1692.

London: Printed for RANDALL TAYLOR, near
Amen-Corner. 1692.

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